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Thea Stilton

THE
THEA SISTERS
AND THE
SECRET
TREASURE
HUNT



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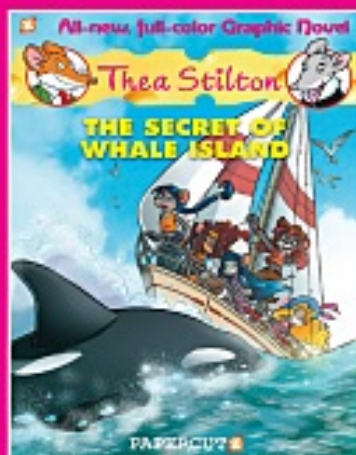
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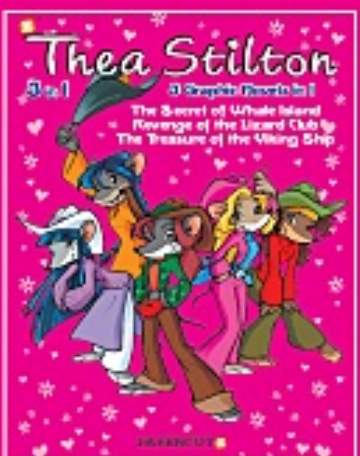
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THE THEA SISTERS AND THE SECRET TREASURE HUNT

by Thea Stilton



PAPERCUT ™

New York

"THE THEA SISTERS AND THE SECRET TREASURE HUNT"

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LIKE MOST ISLANDS,
Whale Island IS OFTEN HIT
BY STRONG GUSTS OF WIND...



GUSTS THAT USUALLY MAKE
THE TREES SWAY WITHOUT
CAUSING ANY DAMAGE...



...BUT THESE
WINDS AREN'T LIKE
NORMAL WINDS...







BUT TO LEARN ABOUT THE TREASURE, WE'LL HAVE TO JUMP FORWARD IN TIME A LITTLE...TO SEVERAL DAYS AFTER THE INCIDENT, WHEN THE FAMOUS JOURNALIST *THEA STILTON* ARRIVES...

THE STUDENTS CAN'T WAIT FOR YOUR CLASS ON JOURNALISM TO START, THEA.

ME TOO, OCTAVIUS. IT'S ALWAYS NICE TO COME BACK TO WHALE ISLAND.

EVERYTHING WENT SMOOTHLY WHEN YOU DOCKED? THE WIND CAUSED SOME DAMAGE TO THE ISLAND.

INCLUDING THE ROOF HERE AT THE ACADEMY...

NOTHING SERIOUS, I HOPE...?

DANGER!

NO, FORTUNATELY... BUT WE GOT A PLEASANT SURPRISE INSTEAD...

WHAT KIND OF SURPRISE? I'M CURIOUS...

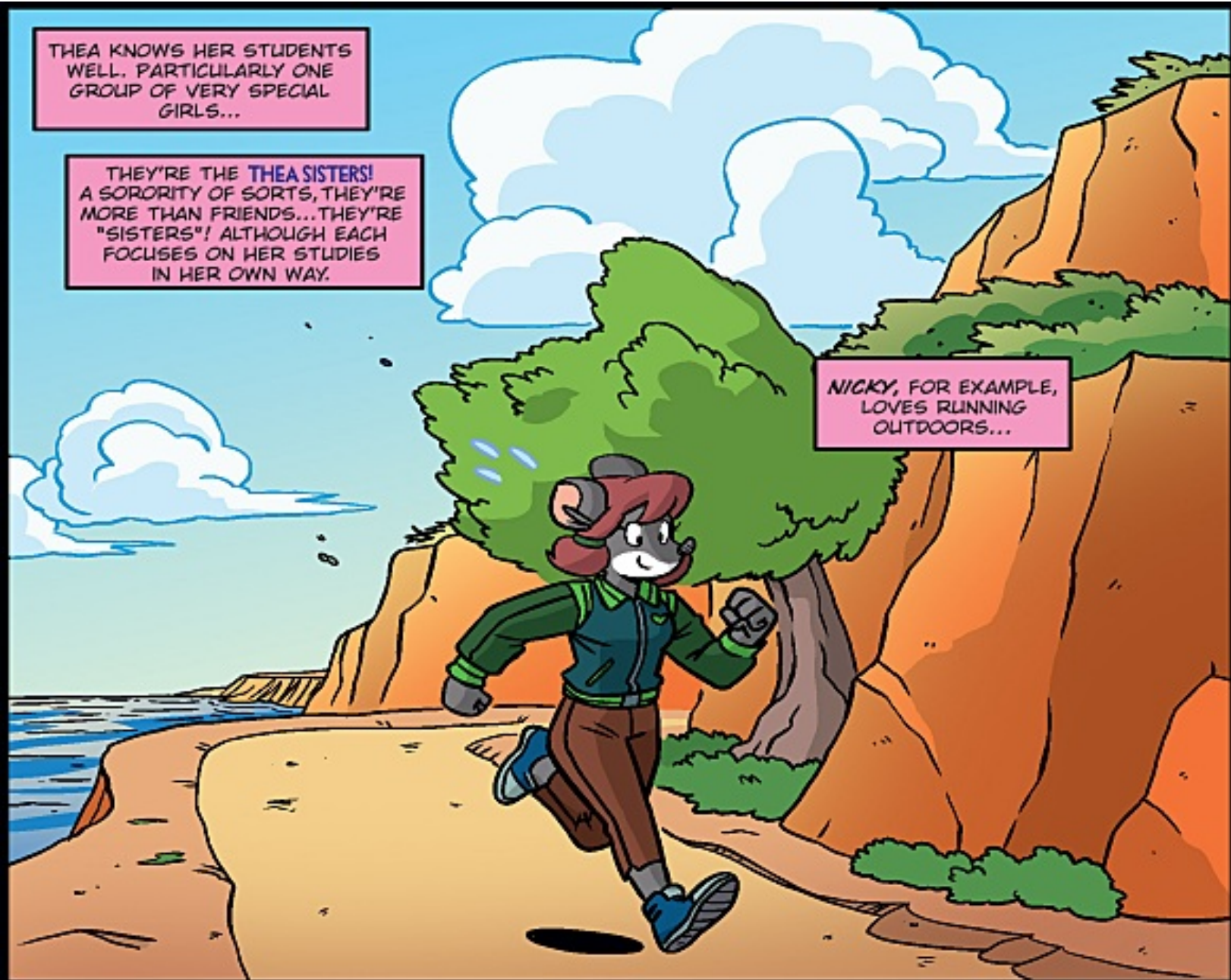
NO DOUBT! COME TO MY OFFICE AND YOU CAN SEE IT WITH YOUR OWN EYES.



THEA KNOWS HER STUDENTS WELL. PARTICULARLY ONE GROUP OF VERY SPECIAL GIRLS...

THEY'RE THE **THEA SISTERS!** A SORORITY OF SORTS, THEY'RE MORE THAN FRIENDS...THEY'RE "SISTERS"! ALTHOUGH EACH FOCUSES ON HER STUDIES IN HER OWN WAY.

NICKY, FOR EXAMPLE, LOVES RUNNING OUTDOORS...



FOR **COLETTE**, HOWEVER, THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN A BEAUTY TREATMENT...



VIOLET RELAXES BY
PLAYING THE VIOLIN...



PAULINA BY PLAYING GAMES ON HER COMPUTER...



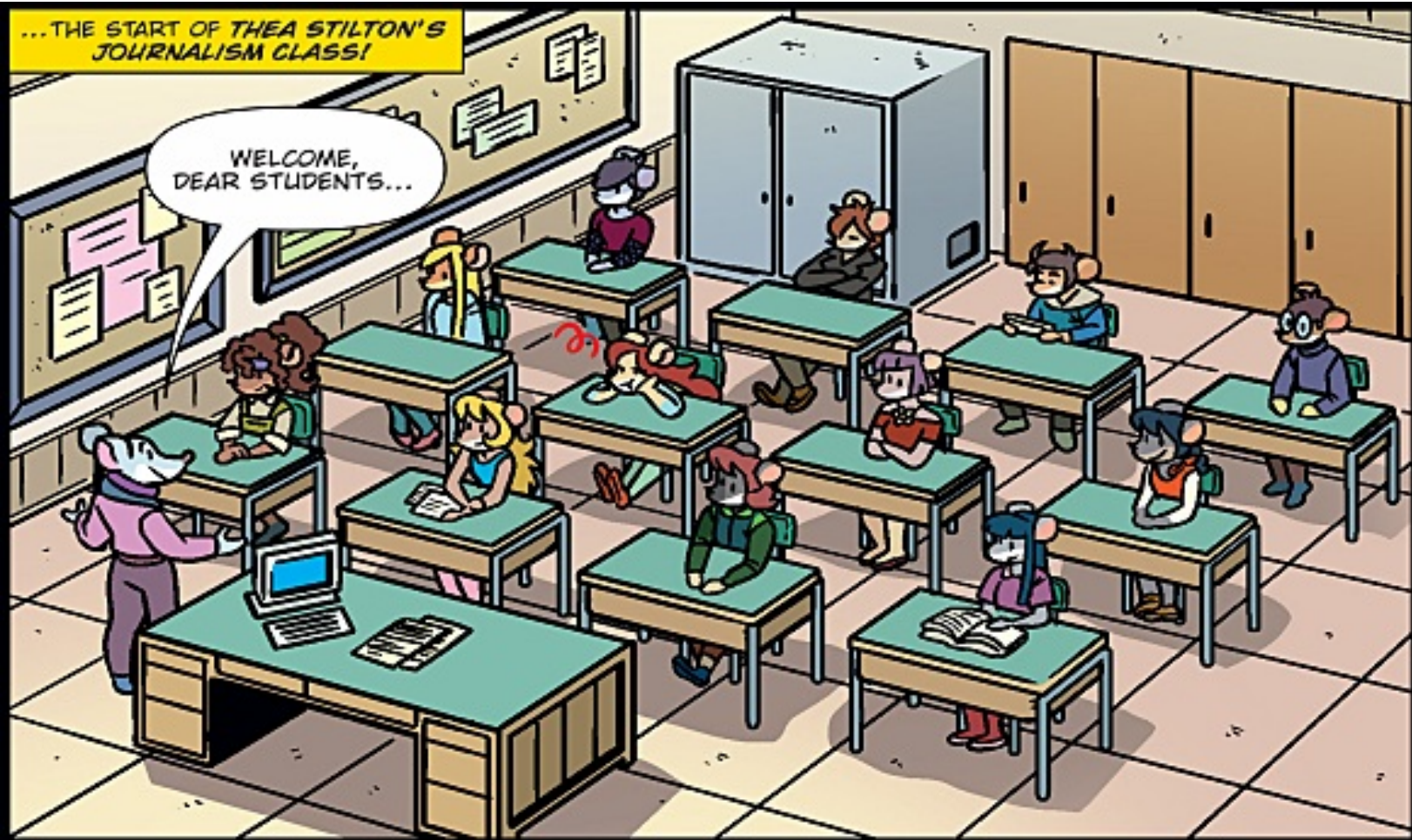
AND PAMELA... WELL, PAMELA ALWAYS
HAS A WRENCH IN HER HAND...



UNTIL THE BELL ANNOUNCES THE BIG MOMENT THEY'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...



WELCOME,
DEAR STUDENTS...



IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE
TO BE HERE AT MOUSEFORD
ACADEMY WITH YOU!



ZOE, I BET THIS WILL
BE ANOTHER **BORING**
CLASS!

THINK SO, VANILLA?
HEE! HEE!

SHHH!





"JONATHAN AND PHILIP WERE TWO STUDENTS AT THE ACADEMY WHO WERE VERY INTERESTED IN WRITING... SO MUCH SO THAT THEY CREATED A SERIES OF STORIES CALLED **THE ISLAND OF MYSTERY...**"



"THE TWO USED AN ATTIC ROOM IN THE ACADEMY AS A PLACE TO WRITE...THERE THEY SPENT ENTIRE AFTERNOONS CREATING AND WRITING NEW ADVENTURES FOR THEIR SERIES..."



"AN EDITOR DISCOVERED THEIR TALENT AND WANTED TO PUBLISH THEIR NOVELS..."



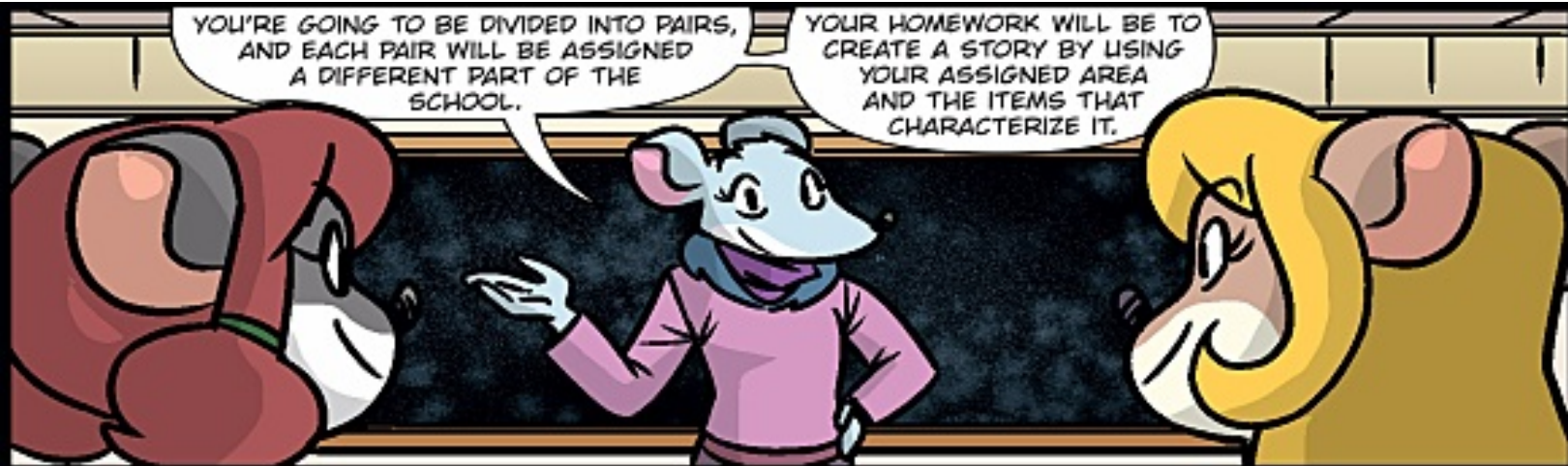
"WHEN THEY LEFT, THEY PROMISED TO KEEP WRITING MORE ADVENTURES FOR THEIR SERIES...AND SO THEY DID!"



"JONATHAN AND PHILIP CONTINUED AS STUDENTS WHILE WORKING AS WRITERS AT THE SAME TIME, RIGHT HERE AT THE ACADEMY...WITH EXCELLENT RESULTS IN BOTH!"



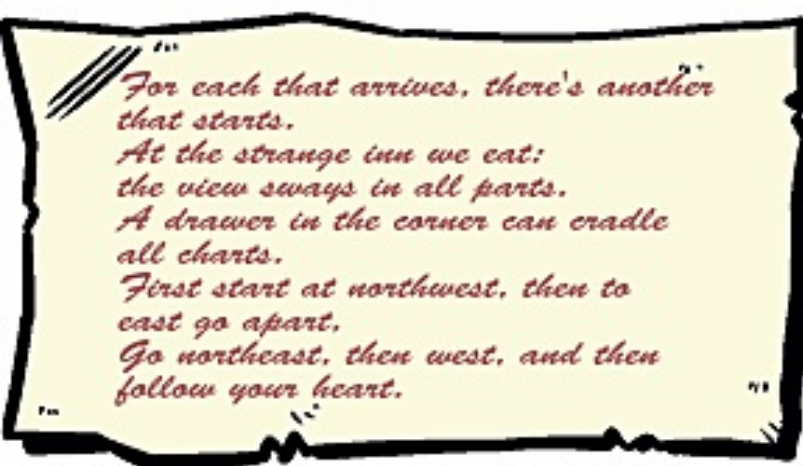


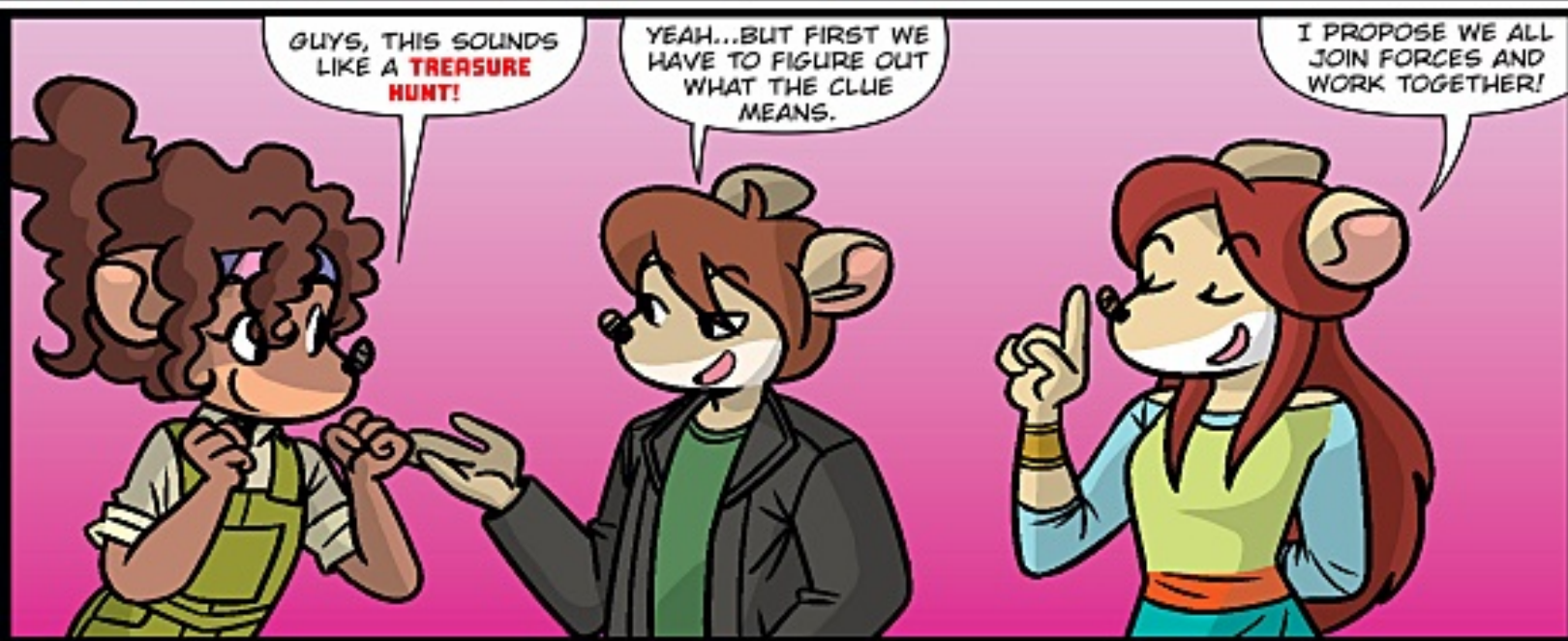














THAT'S NEW!
VANILLA DE VISSEN
WANTS TO WORK
TOGETHER?



OF COURSE! WHY NOT?
WHO DO YOU TAKE ME
FOR? THIS ISN'T A
COMPETITION!



"FOR EACH THAT ARRIVES, THERE'S ANOTHER THAT STARTS.
AT THE STRANGE INN WE EAT: THE VIEW SWAYS IN ALL
PARTS. A DRAWER IN THE CORNER CAN CRADLE ALL CHARTS.
FIRST START AT NORTHWEST, THEN TO EAST GO APART,
GO NORTHEAST, THEN NORTHWEST
AND THEN FOLLOW YOUR
HEART." WHAT COULD
THAT MEAN?

IT'S DEFINITELY
TALKING ABOUT AN INN,
BUT AS FOR THE REST...IT
ALMOST SEEMS LIKE IT'S
TALKING ABOUT THE SEA...



OF COURSE! THE SWAYING
OF THE SHIPS THROUGH THE
WINDOW..."AT THE STRANGE
INN WE EAT!" IT'S TALKING
ABOUT THE TAVERN ACROSS
FROM THE PORT!



I WAS SURE YOU'D DO THE
WORK FOR ME! CONNIE, ZOE,
ALICIA, WITH ME! AND
YOU, TOO, VIC!

HEY, I DON'T WANT
TO GO WITH YOU!



"WHO DO YOU
TAKE ME FOR," EH?
I SHOULD HAVE
EXPECTED
THIS!

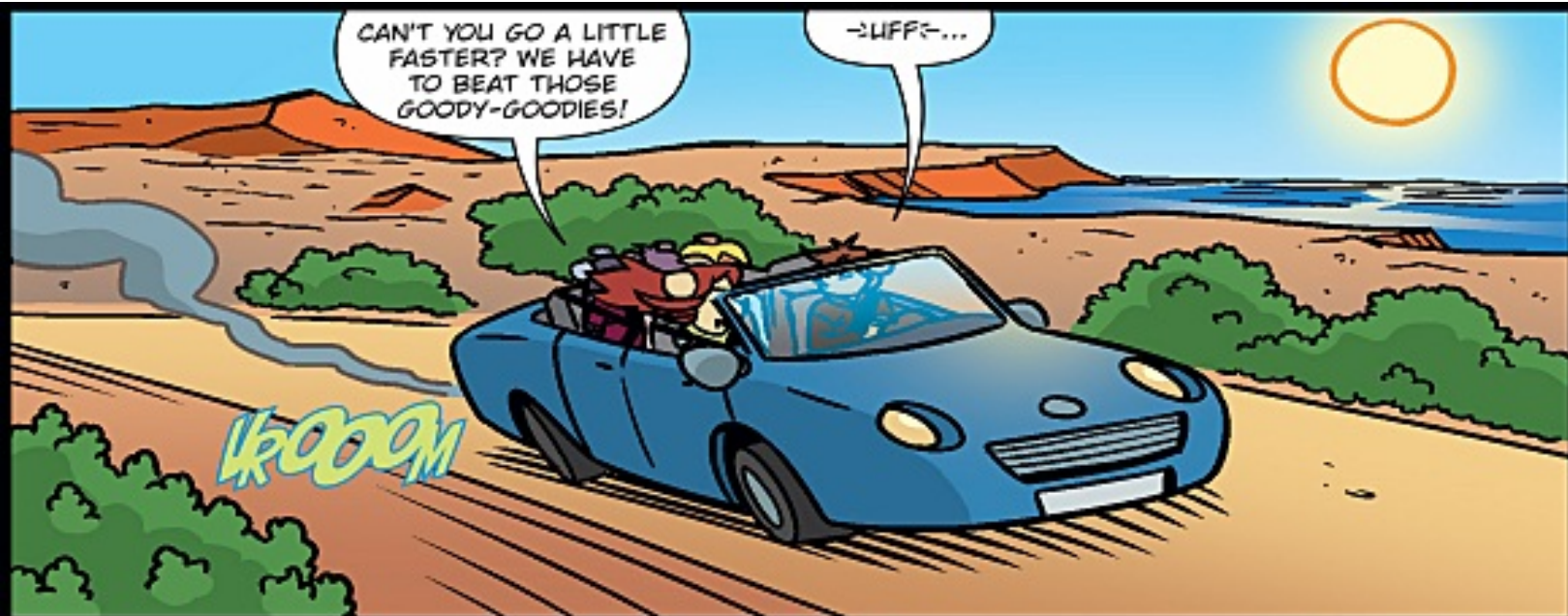


YEAH...EVERYTHING'S A
COMPETITION FOR ME,
SWEETIE! A COMPETITION
I'LL WIN!

OH, YOU'RE SUCH
A DRAG, LITTLE
SISTER!

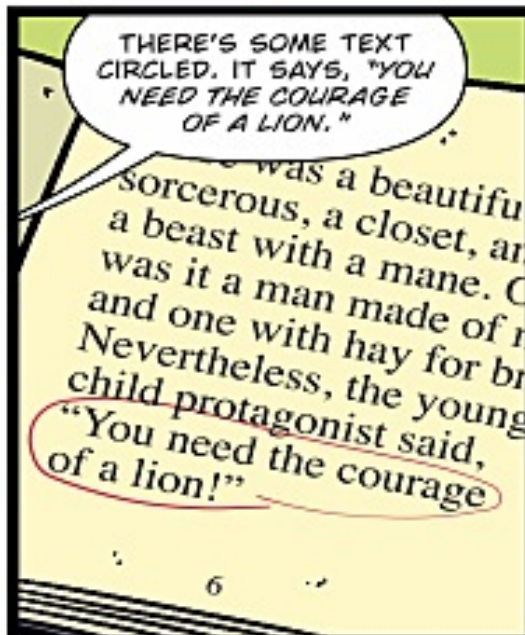












NEXT COORDINATE...
"GO NORTHEAST." THE
NUMBER IS 15!



"IF YOU
FOLLOW ITS
TAIL"...

was full of people,
yone was laughing
ing to each other.
but the kid. Sitting
able, alone, he was
about that mystery.

ook a look outside
. There was an old
he seemed to
ery interested
was in the sky.
he kid felt the urge
outside with him.

14

When he walked out of the inn, the
old man was there, looking at the
sky. It was a calm night, and the
stars were shining. But a strange
feeling was buzzing in his mind.
Something's going to come, he
thought. As if he his thoughts were
heard, the old mouse started to
talk to him. "Watch that star,
kid" he said "it's shining for
you...and if you follow its tail..."
The old man was interrupted.
A strange noise came from the dock!

15

FROM NORTHEAST
TO WEST...PAGE
123!

HERE THE TEXT THAT'S CIRCLED
IS, "THEN A DOOR WON'T
BE FAR!"

WE'VE
FINISHED IT,
GUYS!



"YOU NEED THE COURAGE
OF A LION TO WATCH A STAR.
IF YOU FOLLOW ITS TAIL THEN
A DOOR WON'T BE FAR!"

WHAT
COULD THAT
MEAN?



OBTAINING YOU DIDN'T
PAY MUCH ATTENTION DURING
ASTRONOMY CLASSES,
LITTLE SISTER.



WE'LL NEVER GET THERE IN THIS MINIVAN. VIC'S CAR IS MUCH FASTER.

I FORBID YOU TO MAKE FUN OF OUR GLORIOUS VEHICLE, COLETTE!

THE ONLY GLORIOUS THING WILL BE OUR DEFEAT!



CALM DOWN, GIRLS. I KNOW A SHORTCUT.

IT'S THE ROAD WHERE I ALWAYS RUN!

TAVERN, HERE WE COME!



THE ROAD TAKES THE STUDENTS RIGHT TO THE DOOR...

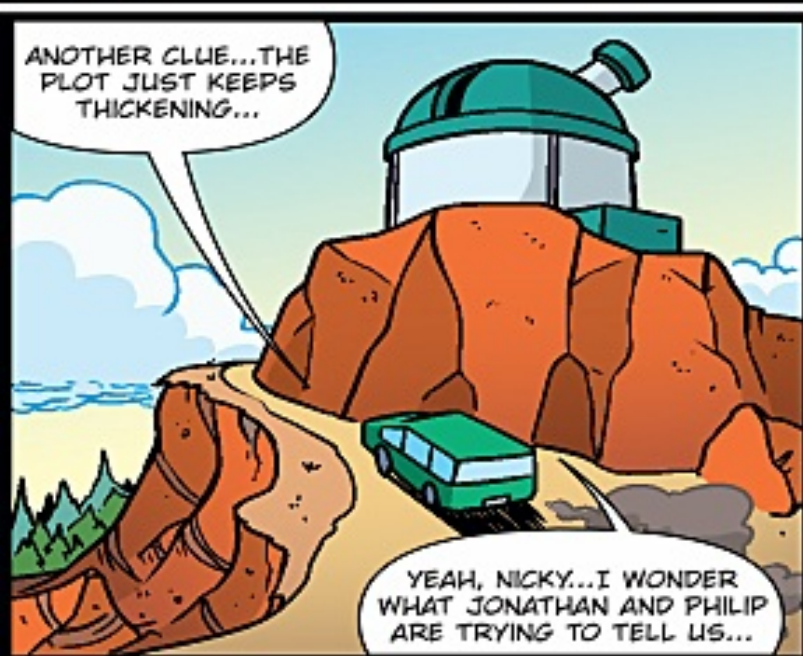


DID YOU FIGURE OUT THE CLUE, GIRLS?

YOU BET WE DID, SWEETIE! AND WE FOUND ANOTHER ONE! BUT WE'LL NEVER EVER TELL YOU THE SOLUTION!

THE CLUE LEADS TO THE ISLAND'S OBSERVATORY. MEET YOU THERE?

WHAT?!
VIC!



SOON, THE THEA SISTERS, ALONG WITH CRAIG AND SHEN, ARRIVE AT THE WHALE ISLAND OBSERVATORY. A VERY INTERESTING PLACE RUN BY DIRECTOR RAYMOND O'NEIL, A JAUNTY OLD ASTRONOMER.

WHILE WORKING AWAY IN THE LAB, HE IS ALSO ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF THE PLACE WITH GREAT PROFESSIONALISM AND PASSION...

LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE MORE VISITORS THAN USUAL TODAY. I WONDER WHY...

WHILE HE PONDERES THAT QUESTION, OTHERS IN THE OBSERVATORY HALL STRUGGLE TO SOLVE THEIR MYSTERY...

COMPETING WITH EACH OTHER ISN'T WORKING. IF WE ALL CONTINUE THIS WAY, WE'LL NEVER SOLVE IT.

RIGHT...WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE CLUE IS TALKING ABOUT, ALICIA?

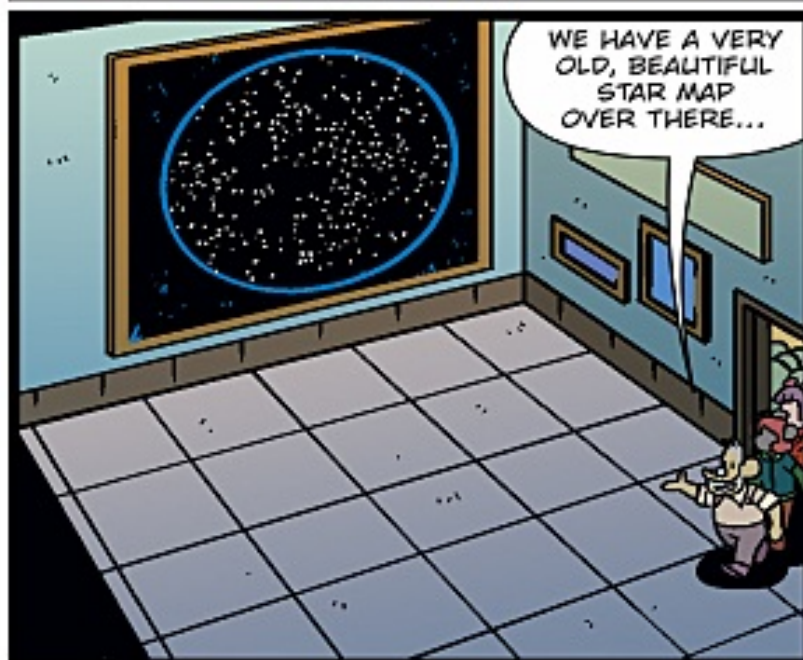
"YOU NEED THE COURAGE OF A LION TO WATCH A STAR. IF YOU FOLLOW ITS TAIL, THEN A DOOR WON'T BE FAR!" WE CAN'T FIGURE IT OUT.

MAY I HELP YOU?

YES, GOOD IDEA, VIOLET...

ALSO, THE FIRST CLUE AT THE INN WAS SET UP IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT NEEDED MANY PEOPLE TO SOLVE IT...

...OF COURSE, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SOLVE IT ALONE, BUT IT'S MUCH EASIER WITH A TEAM.



...UNTIL A FEW YEARS AGO,
WE USED THIS OLD CELESTIAL
MAP...BUT NOW THINGS
HAVE CHANGED...

HERE'S THE
CONSTELLATION
LEO!



WOW, NICKY! HOW
DID YOU IDENTIFY
IT SO FAST?

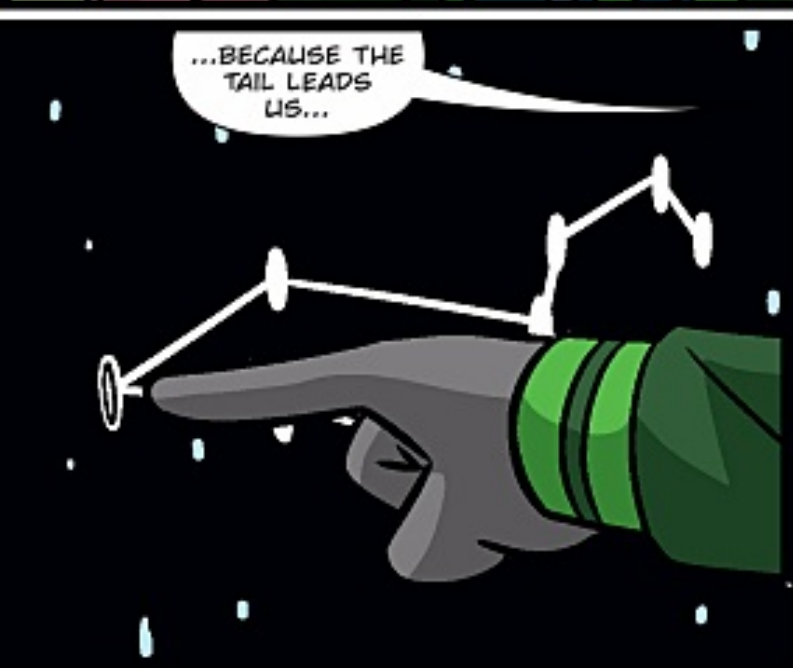
HEE-HEE! NIGHTS AT
THE BEACH LOOKING AT
THE STARS HAVE ALWAYS
HELD A FASCINATION
FOR ME!



THE CLUE SPOKE
ABOUT FOLLOWING
ITS TAIL...



...BECAUSE THE
TAIL LEADS
US...



...RIGHT TO THIS
SECRET BUTTON!

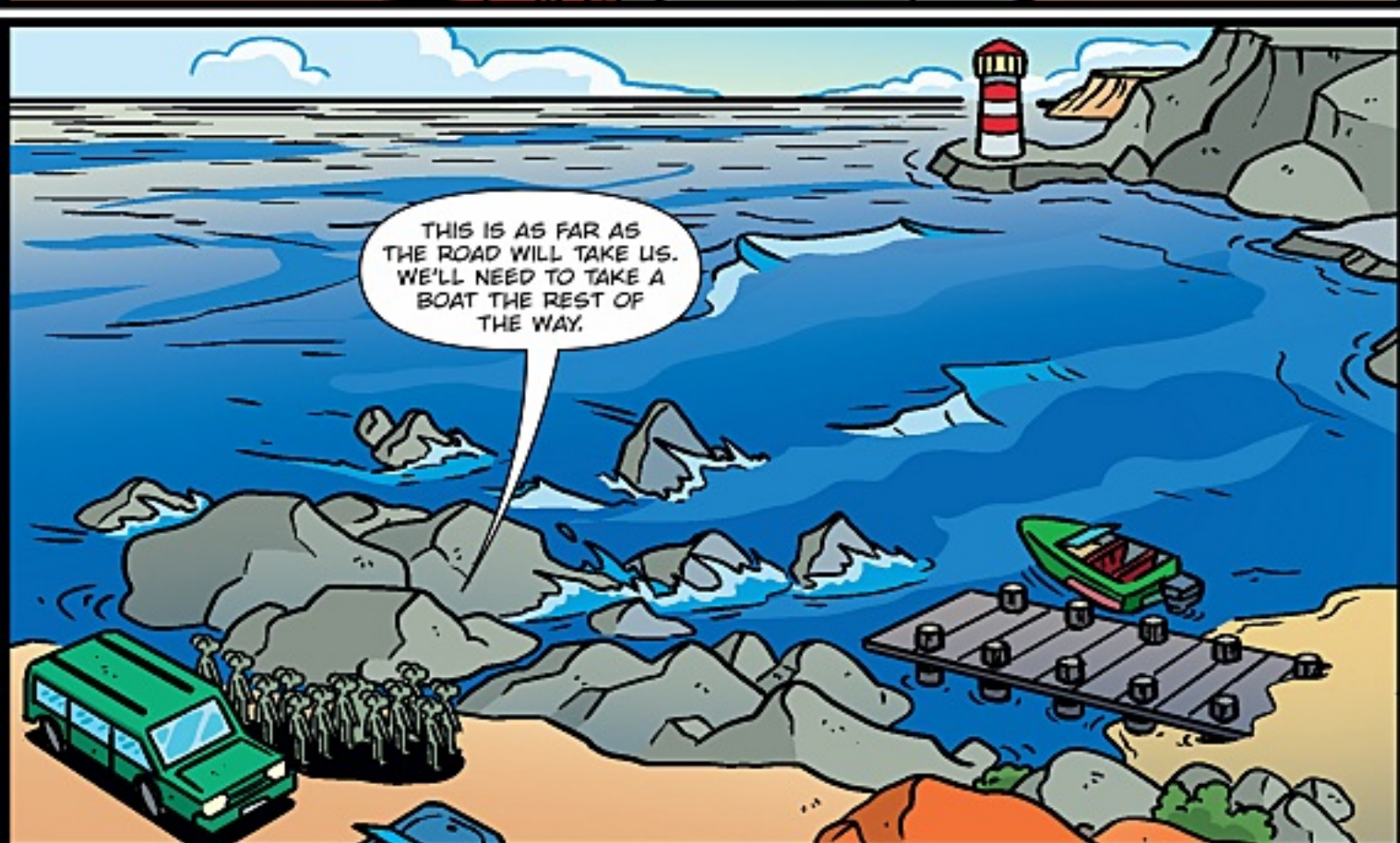




AND SO THE GROUP,
NOW UNITED, DRIVES
TOWARDS THE
LIGHTHOUSE...



THIS IS AS FAR AS
THE ROAD WILL TAKE US.
WE'LL NEED TO TAKE A
BOAT THE REST OF
THE WAY.



THAT BOAT'S TOO
SMALL TO CARRY
ALL OF US...

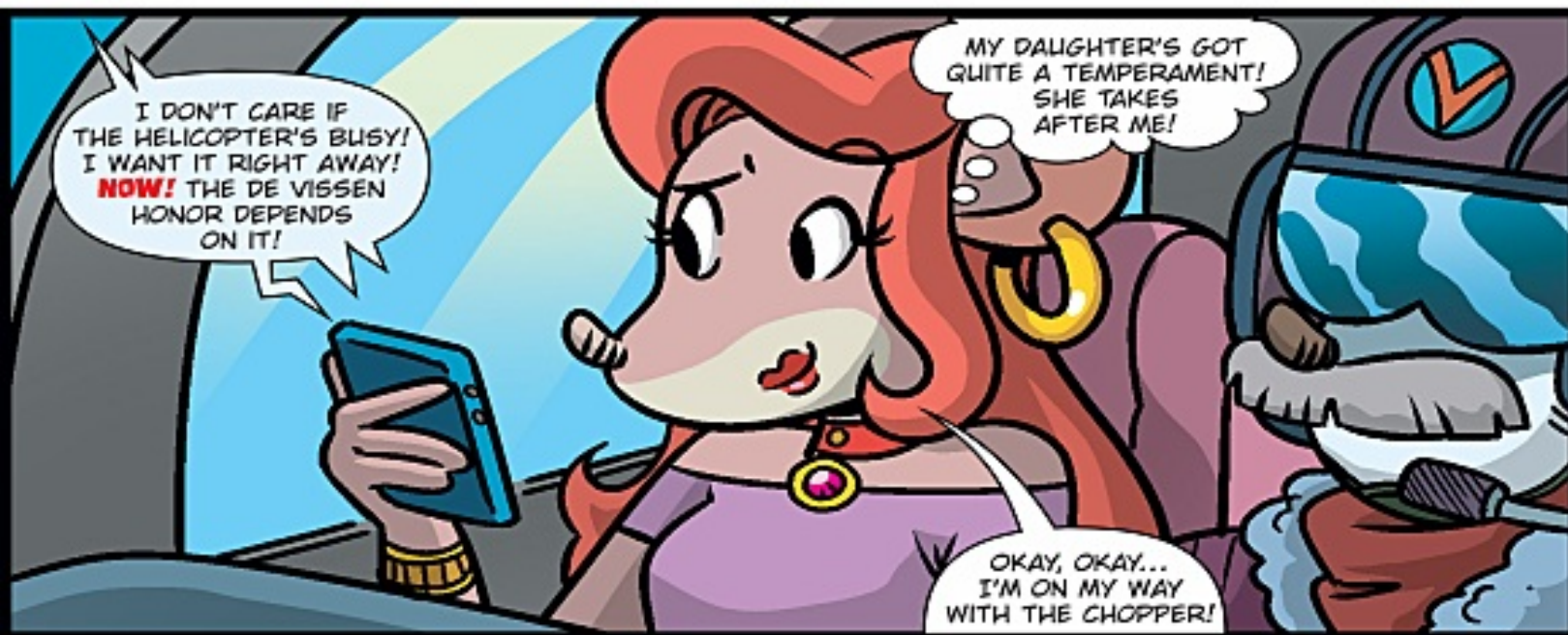


FINE, I SAY!
I HAVE NO INTENTION
OF MOVING FROM HERE.
THIS WIND'S AWFUL. IT'LL
REALLY DAMAGE MY HAIR!







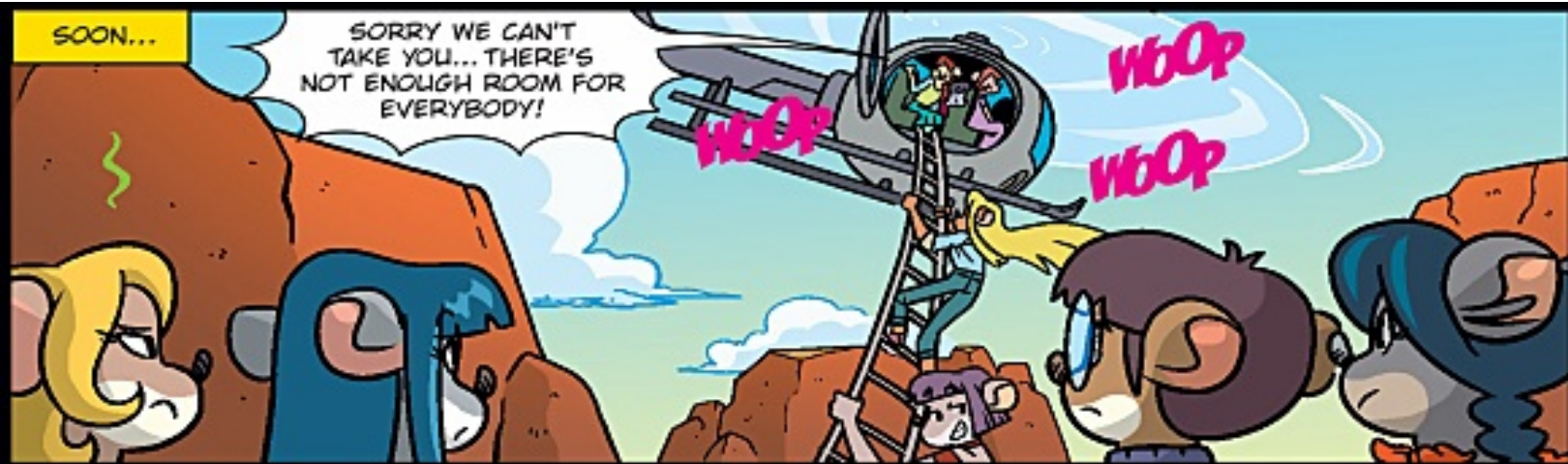


SOON...

SORRY WE CAN'T
TAKE YOU... THERE'S
NOT ENOUGH ROOM FOR
EVERYBODY!

WOOP

WOOP
WOOP



DON'T WORRY,
VANILLA, WE'RE
GLAD TO WAIT
HERE!



HEY, LOOK!
THE DE VISSER
HELICOPTER!

I KNEW VANILLA'D
TURN TO HER RICH
MOM'S RESOURCES!

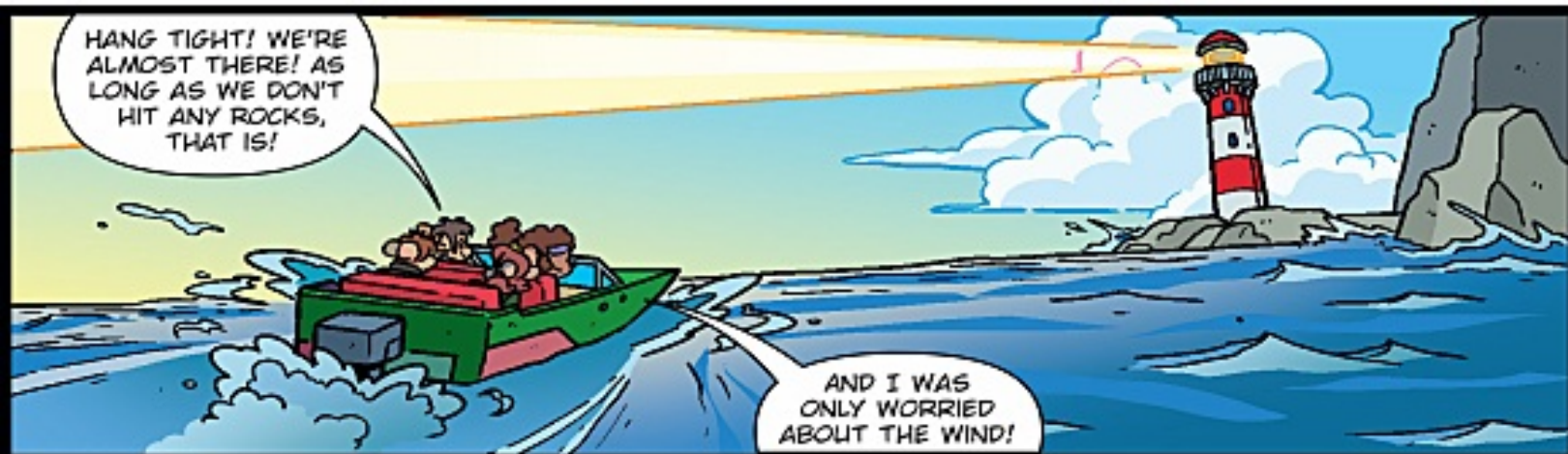
WOOP
WOOP

TYPICAL OF
MY SISTER...



HANG TIGHT! WE'RE
ALMOST THERE! AS
LONG AS WE DON'T
HIT ANY ROCKS,
THAT IS!

AND I WAS
ONLY WORRIED
ABOUT THE WIND!



A LITTLE LATER...

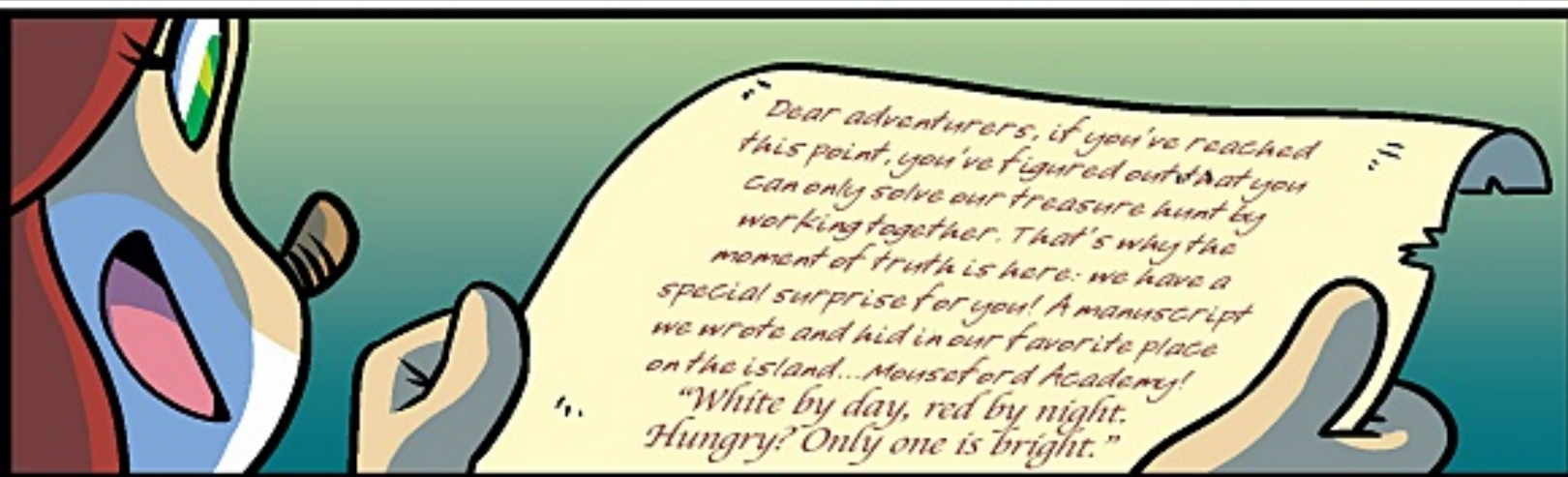
WE MADE IT--
AND IN ONE
PIECE!

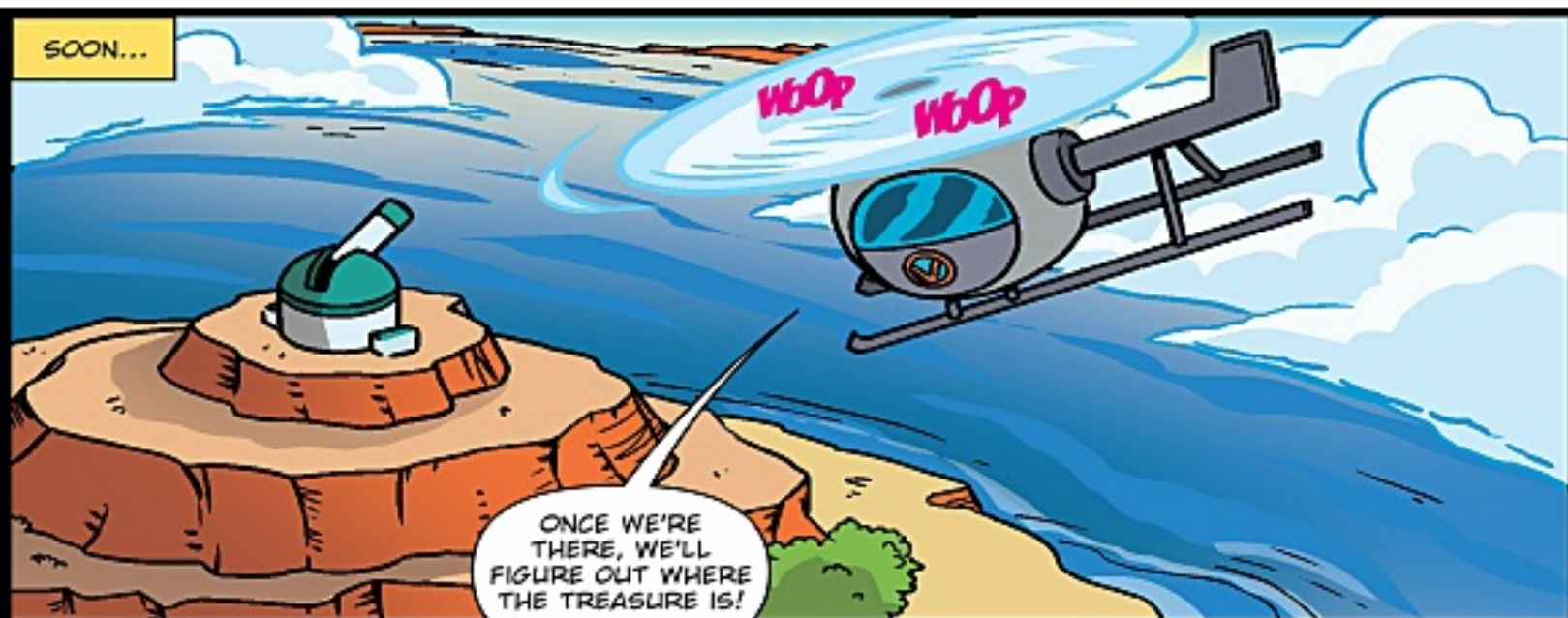
YOU'RE GREAT,
CAPTAIN CRAIG!











SOON, BACK ON THE BEACH, PAMELA, NICKY, AND CRAIG REJOIN SHEN, VIOLET, COLETTE, AND PAULINA...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. THIS IS GREAT NEWS!

I'LL BE THE **FIRST** FAN TO READ THE UNPUBLISHED BOOK IN THE SERIES!

I JUST HOPE VANILLA DOESN'T GET TO THE MANUSCRIPT BEFORE US.

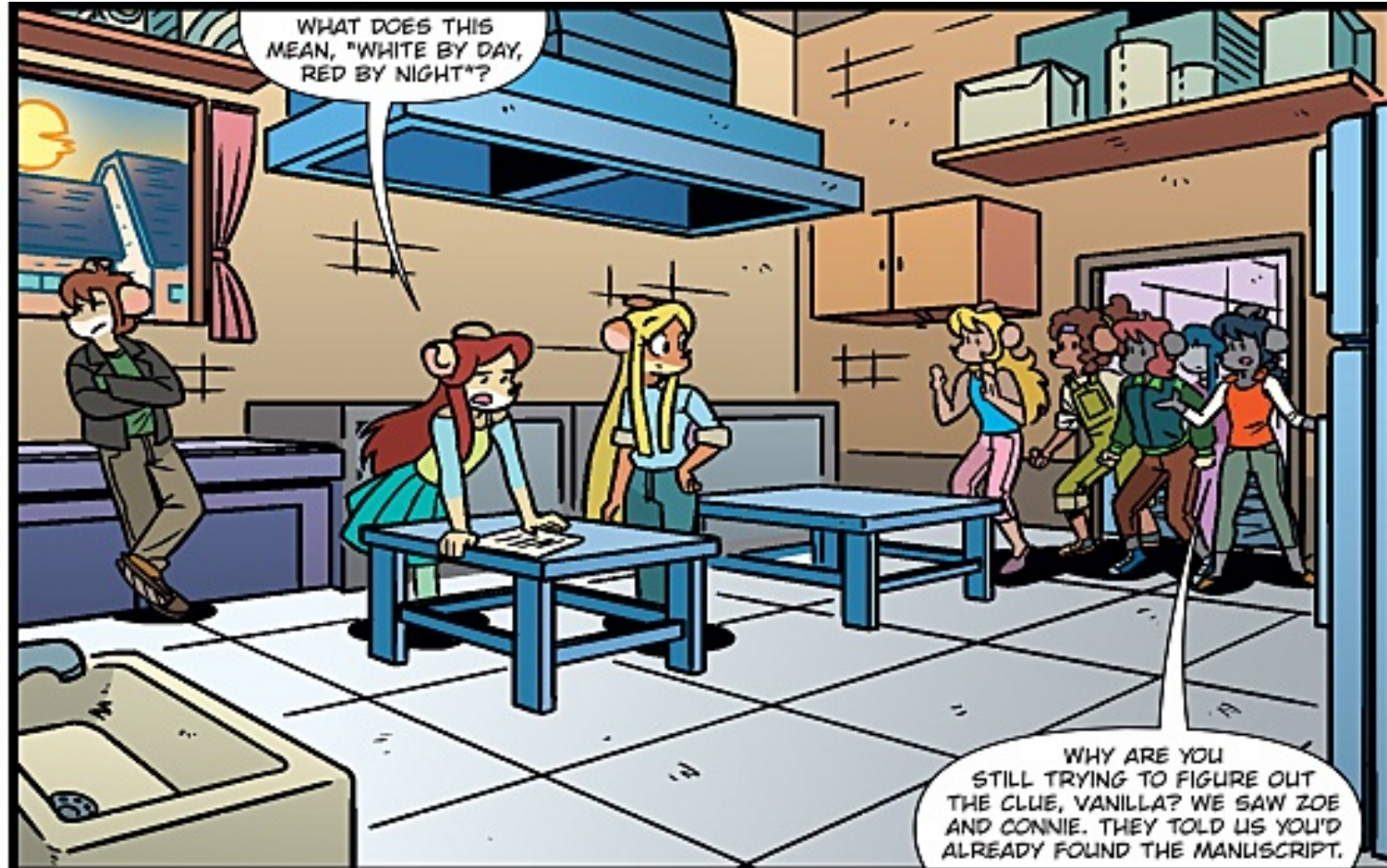
CALM DOWN, COLETTE. THERE'S LITTLE CHANCE SHE'LL BE ABLE TO DECIPHER THE CLUE IF SHE DOESN'T WORK WITH THE TEAM.

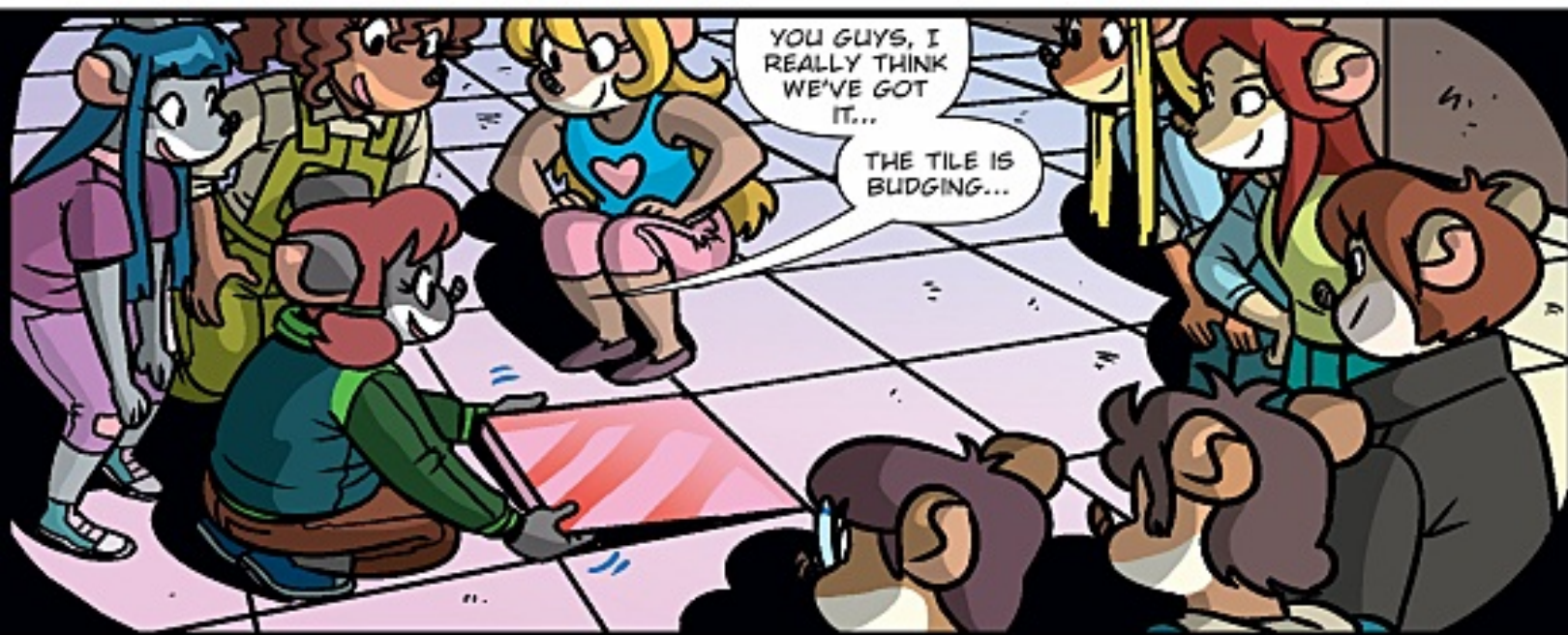
ESPECIALLY SINCE SHE DOESN'T HAVE A COOKING EXPERT LIKE PAMELA ON HER TEAM, WHO'D BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT THE CLUE RIGHT AWAY!

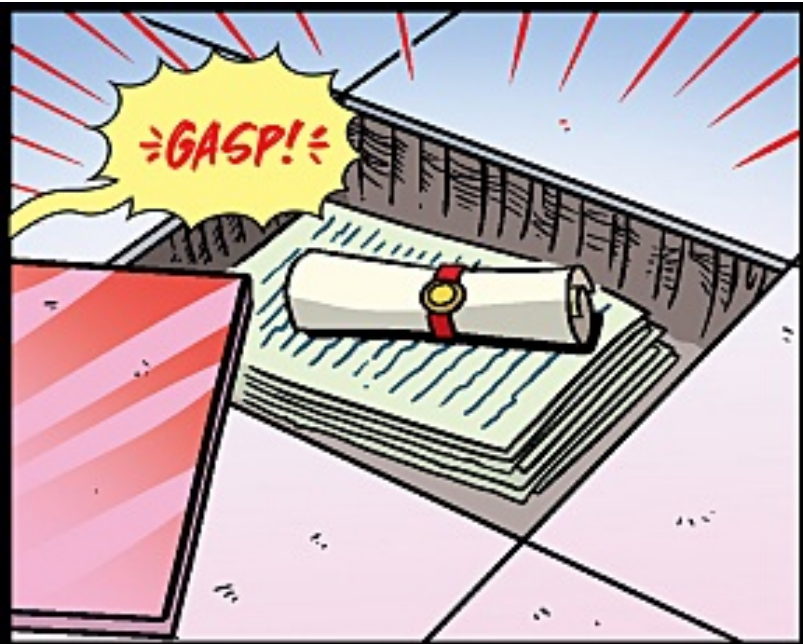
YOU SAID IT, PAULINA! AS SOON AS I HEARD, "HUNGRY," I WANTED TO BAKE A CAKE RIGHT AWAY!

HA! HA! HA!









"DEAR ADVENTURERS, IF YOU'RE READING THESE WORDS, YOU'VE SUCCEEDED IN SOLVING THE FINAL CLUE. THE MANUSCRIPT YOU'VE FOUND IS A DECLARATION OF OUR LOVE FOR MOUSEFORD ACADEMY AND WHALE ISLAND..."



"NOW THAT OUR YEARS AT THE ACADEMY ARE ENDING AND OUR CAREERS AS WRITERS AWAIT US, WE THOUGHT WE'D LEAVE A SMALL PRESENT..."



"WITHOUT THIS SCHOOL AND THIS MARVELOUS PLACE, WE WOULD NEVER HAVE FOUND THE INSPIRATION FOR THE ISLAND OF MYSTERY..."



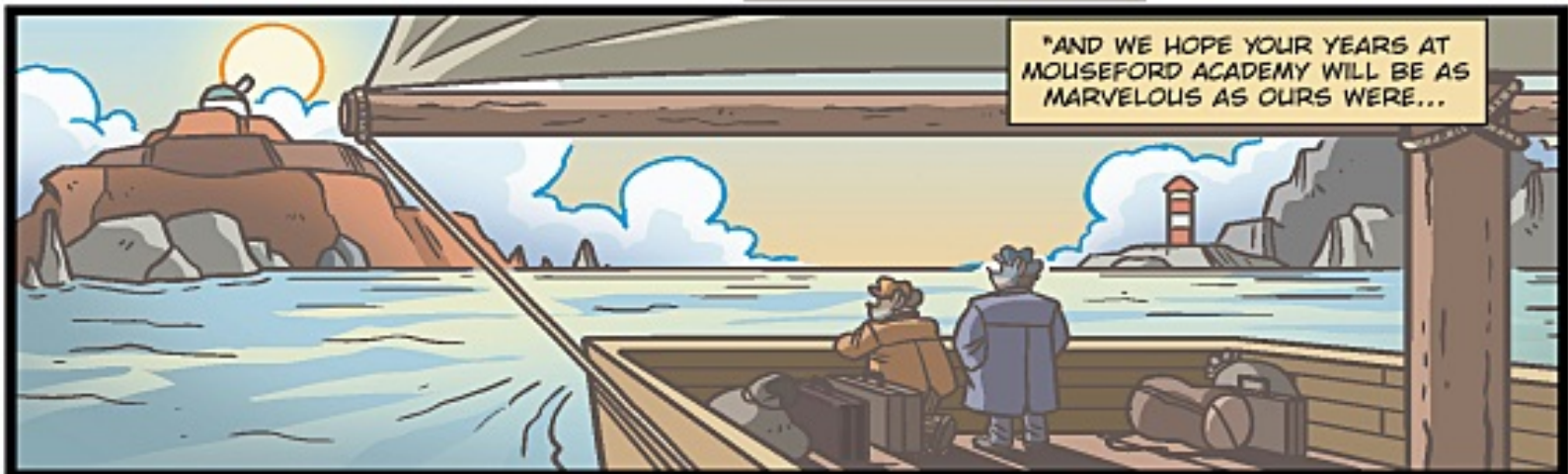
"THAT'S WHY WE WROTE AN UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPT, SET COMPLETELY AT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY AND ON THE ISLAND, TO LEAVE AS A GIFT ..."



"... TO THE INTREPID ADVENTURERS WHO SOLVE THE CLUES AND REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF TEAMWORK..."

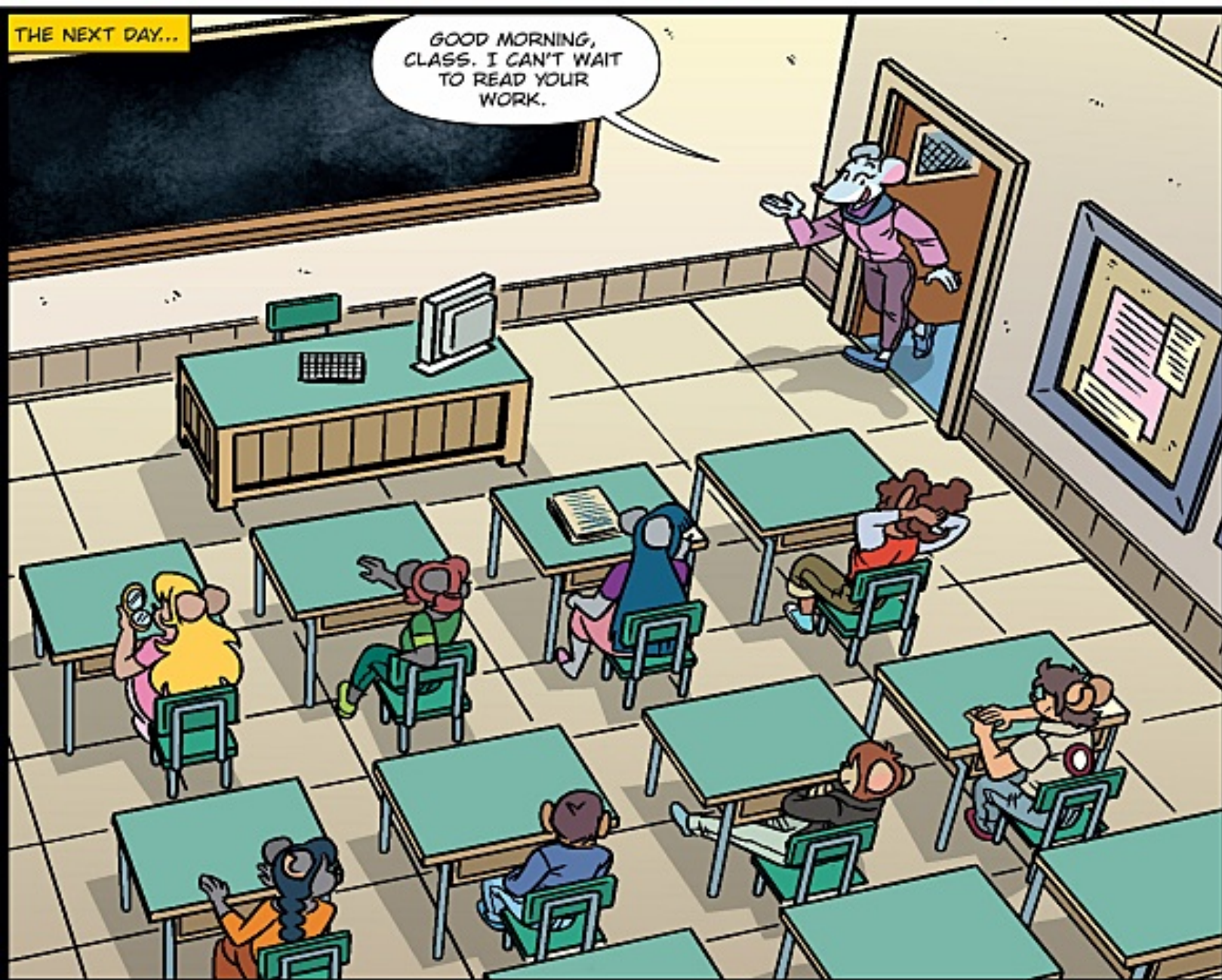


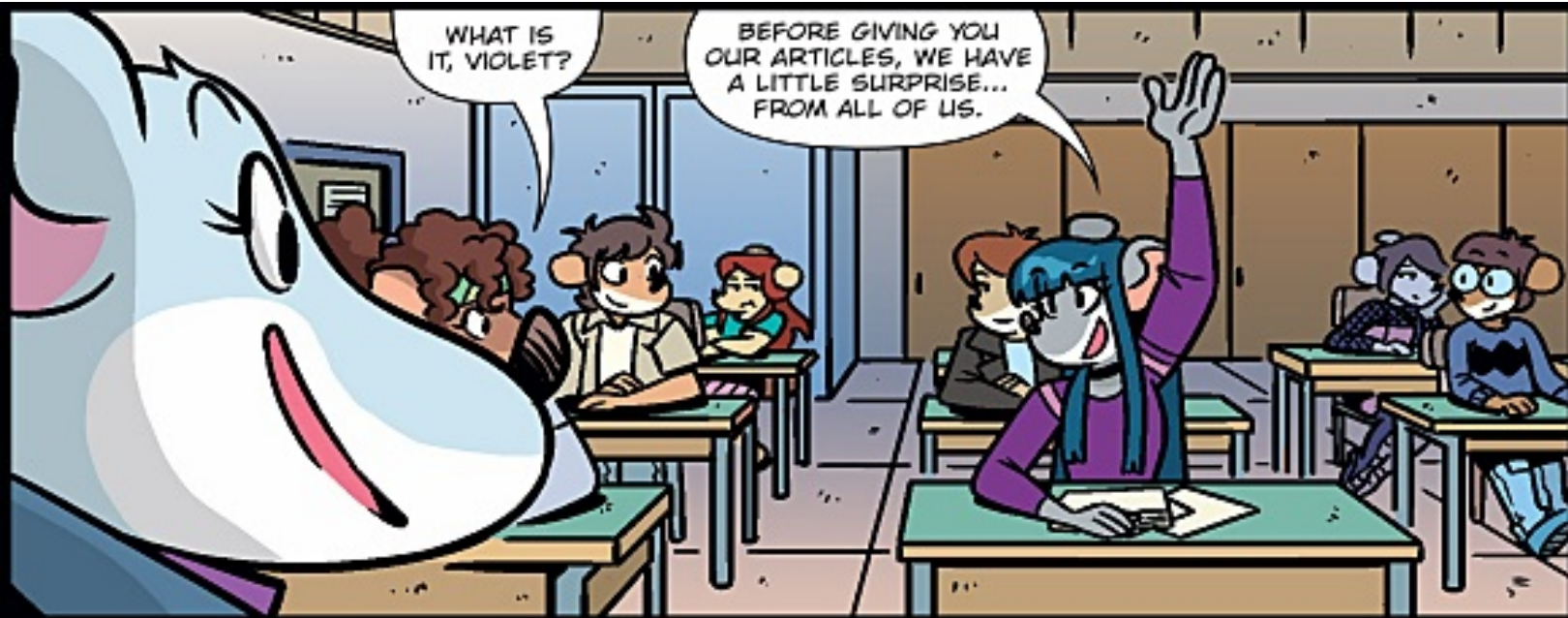
"WE HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY IT AS MUCH AS WE'VE ENJOYED WRITING IT..."

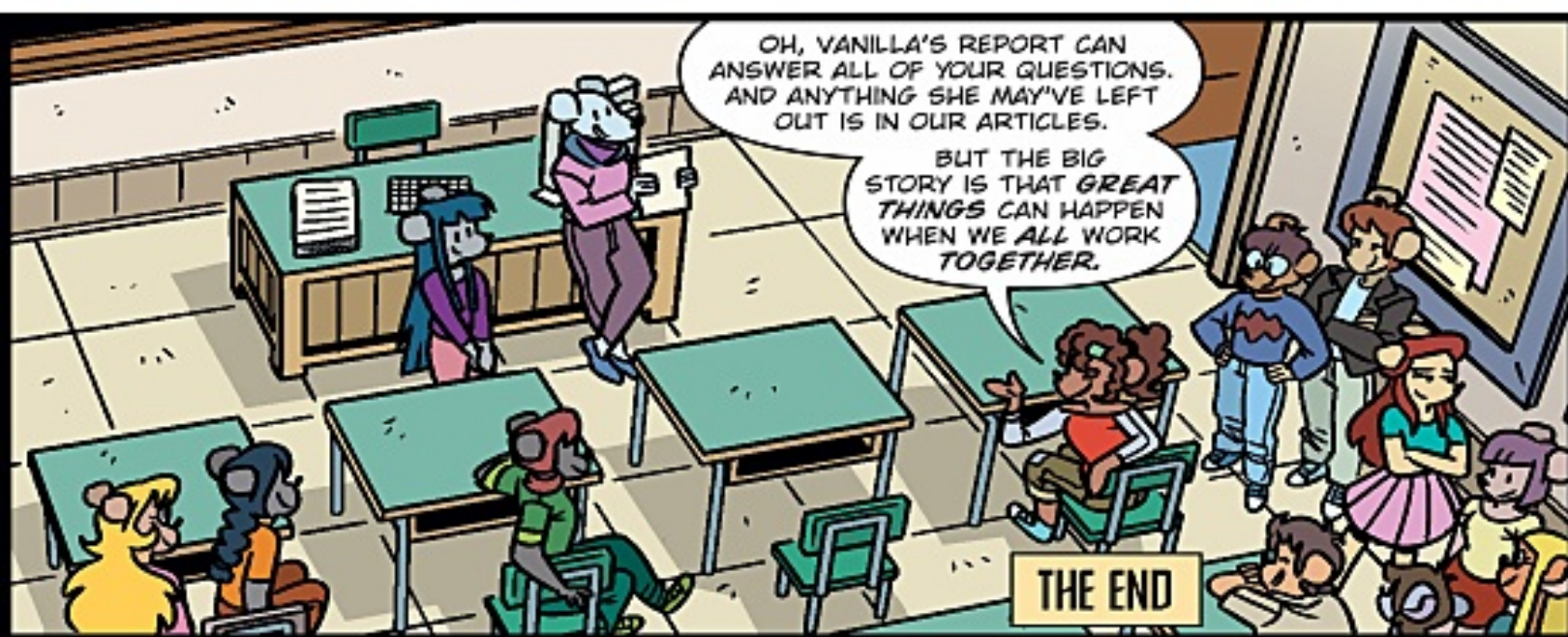
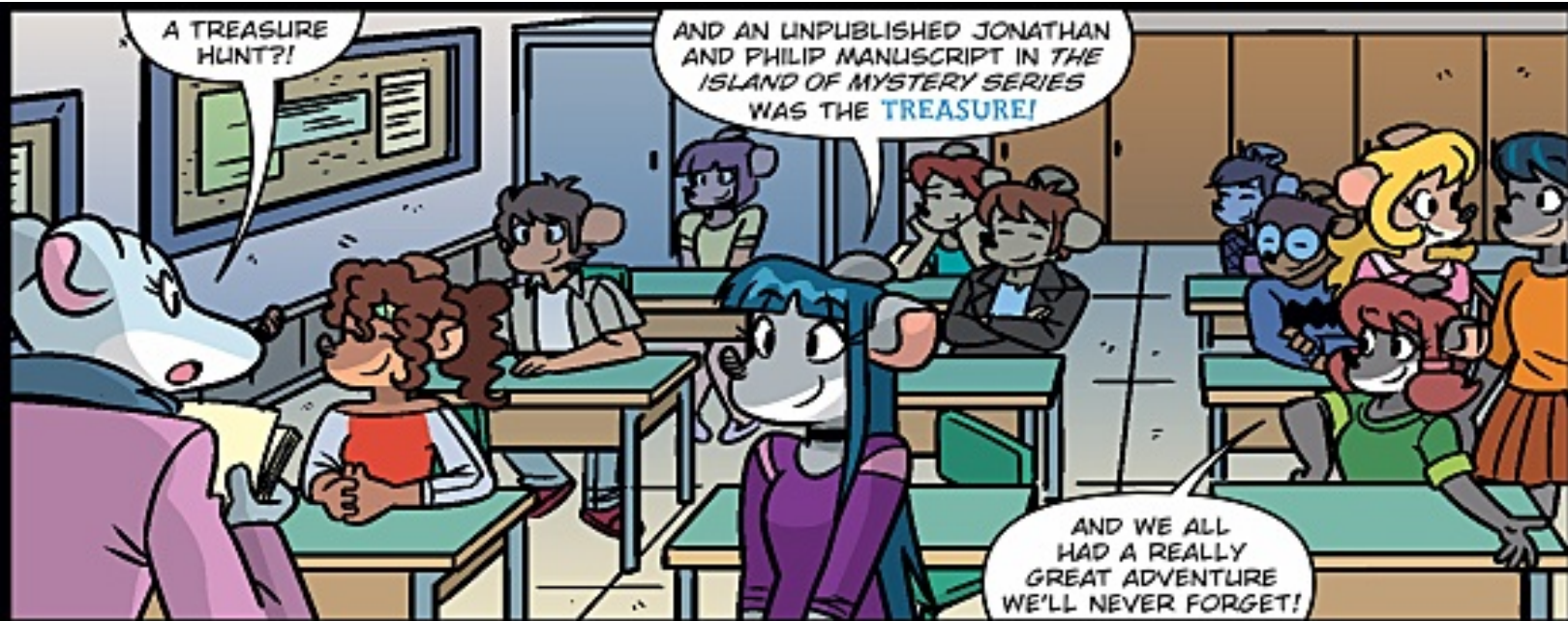


"AND WE HOPE YOUR YEARS AT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY WILL BE AS MARVELOUS AS OURS WERE..."









Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ™



Welcome to the excessively-windy, enchantingly-enlightening, eighth THEA STILTON graphic novel reported by Thea Stilton (as told to Francesco Savino, writer, and Ryan Jampole, artist) from Papercutz, that scholarly bunch dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. I'm Salicrup, *Jim Salicrup* the Editor-in-Chief and chief windbag, here to report some actual news...



FAKE NEWS ALERT: Wilson Ramos Jr. can't really play guitar, but he can play *RockBand*!



Francesco Savino does play guitar!

First, to follow up on a minor story we first reported on in THEA STILTON #7, in which we saw how musically talented the Thea Sisters happen to be, we also noted that Papercutz publisher Terry Nantier could play the drums, and our erstwhile Production Coordinator, Sasha Kimatek, plays violin. We promised to see if any other members of our creative crew played any musical instruments and to report our findings here. We did a lot of research and extensive digging (actually we just sent out a few emails) and discovered that writer Francesco Savino actually plays guitar, artist Ryan Jampole plays guitar, that colorist Laurie E. Smith doesn't play a musical instrument, but she does voiceovers, letterer Wilson Ramos Jr. plays guitar—well, if you count the one in the game *RockBand*—and translator Nanette McGuinness is a soprano (No, she's not a New Jersey mobster, she's also a professional opera singer). Or so they claim. A good journalist will get confirmation, we'll just have to take 'em on their word.

But the big news is actually about the fate of this particular series of graphic novels. As much as we love producing THEA STILTON graphic novels, due to circumstances beyond our control, we won't be publishing any further volumes in this series. Usually, when a publisher stops creating additional volumes in a series that means that the sales have fallen to the point where it doesn't make sense to continue, but let me assure you, THEA STILTON has been a wonderfully solid seller for us and we really wish we could continue, but as it's been said, all things must end, and for us this issue marks the end of our series of all-new THEA STILTON graphic novels featuring the Thea Sisters.

The good news is we're actually starting a new series, called THEA STILTON 3 IN 1, which will feature three THEA STILTON graphic novels in each volume. The first volume will re-present THEA STILTON #1-3, in an affordable paperback edition. If you missed those early THEA graphic novels, here's a great way to catch up.

five female winged unicorns named Electra, Selene, Kora, Maia, and Clio, and it's all about their magical adventures at school at Destino, a legendary castle hidden somewhere in the clouds above the ancient realms of the world of Aura. If that wasn't awesome enough, each of these students was born with a symbol on their wings, a sign that they have a hidden power. We hope that you'll check out the first MELOWY graphic novel, and get to know these five girls—we suspect you may love them as much as you do The Thea Sisters!

So, as we sadly say good-bye to Whale Island and those five Mouseford Academy students, let's all say hello to the five new students at Destino—coming your way in MELOWY #1! Be sure to go to papercutz.com for more MELOWY news!



Meet the stars of MELOWY!

Thanks,

Jim

Stay in Touch!

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Geronimo Stilton

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"Geronimo Stilton Saves the Olympics"



#11
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#12
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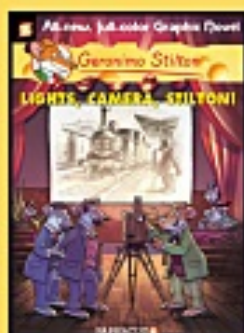
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#14
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#15
"All for Stilton, Stilton for All!"



#16
"Lights, Camera, Stilton!"



#17
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#18
"First to the Last Place on Earth!"



#19
"Lost in Translation"

"The Island of Mystery" Mystery!

A journalism assignment by guest professor, Thea Stilton, leads her students at Mouseford Academy on a scavenger hunt created by former students who went on to co-write "The Island of Mystery" novels. The Thea Sisters—Colette, Nicky, Pamela, Paulina, and Violet—know that teamwork is a must. But mean girl Vanilla de Vissan surprises everyone by being a team player. Is it a trick? Or does she know something the Thea Sisters don't?



The Thea Sisters are five fun, lively students at Mouseford Academy on Whale Island, who want to be real, live journalists. Between classes and friendships, love and small fits of jealousy, they find life at the Academy to be a never-ending adventure!



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